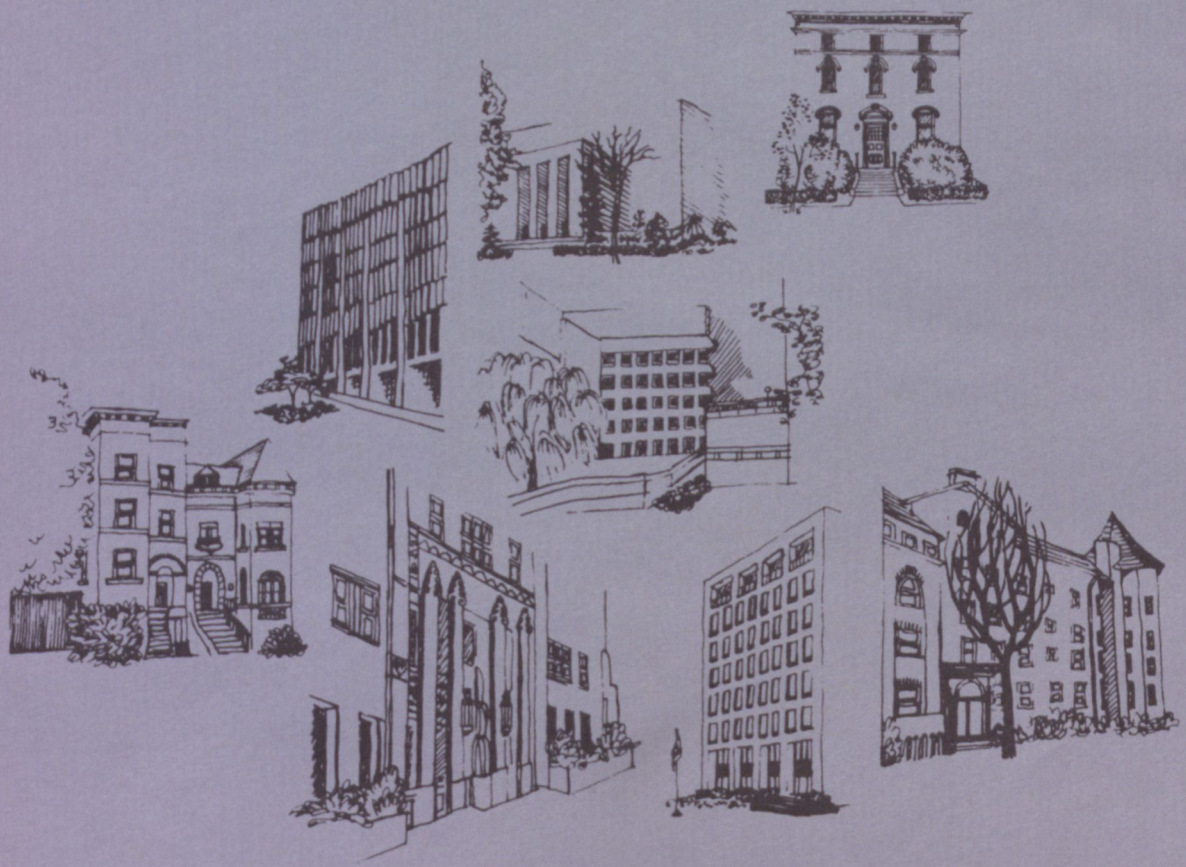
Diversions

A Cultural Guide
To George Washington University Campus
For Neighborhood Residents



Diversions

The concept of a university in the city is as old as the concept of the university itself. Urban universities of the late Middle Ages were city products quite unlike classic "American-style" institutions with their bucolic settings and Georgian architecture. Today's urban university is not only within the city, it is of the city. It breathes city air and shares city problems. It is housed in buildings not much different from those found throughout its urban environment. Its people have chosen the stimulation of the city, with its concomitant stresses, for a satisfaction they can experience nowhere else. Such a university is The George Washington University. It is part of Washington, D.C., and it is part of Foggy Bottom.

This introduction to GW has been composed as an invitation for its Foggy Bottom neighbors to share in what the University is and in some of the things it does.

First a few facts—the GW campus, with boundaries defined at the request of the District of Columbia—is in the shape of a trapezoid: some 45 acres extending from F Street to Pennsylvania Avenue and from 19th to 24th Street.

Founded in 1821, GWU came to Foggy Bottom, an area that then contained two breweries, a large coal yard, and a gas works, in 1912. Both University and area have changed greatly through the years.

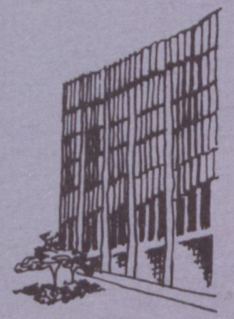
For the residents of Foggy Bottom and the West End area in general, the presence of the University has meant a range of services and diversions, of which many residents are unaware. The list that follows is certainly not inclusive, but it suggests a variety of activities in which the University and its neighbors can share. Many of these activities and events are listed in the calendar of **GWTimes,** *which is mailed to neighborhood residents four times a year, and in the Monday issues of the* **Hatchet,** *the student newspaper, which is distributed on campus.*

Neighborhood Senior Citizens' Course Audit Program Residents of Ward 2-A who are age 60 and older may enroll in a selected group of regular GW courses for the payment of a nominal audit fee for each course. Ward 2-A is bounded on the south by Constitution Avenue, on the west by Rock Creek Park, on the north (moving from Rock Creek eastward) by N Street east to 20th Street, south on 20th to Pennsylvania Avenue, down Pennsylvania to 15th Street, and south on 15th to Constitution Avenue.

These courses are the same selection of introductory-level, undergraduate courses offered to GW alumni under the Alumni Course Audit Program, but neighborhood senior citizens need not be alumni to enroll. The non-credit, non-graded program is administered by the GW Alumni Office, 714 21st Street.

Films The GW Program Board presents popular and current films open to residents of Foggy Bottom-West End each weekend during the academic year. The films are shown in the Marvin Center Ballroom (800 21st Street) or Lisner Auditorium (730 21st Street) twice nightly starting at 7:30 p.m. Most of the films are free. For the more current movies there is a nominal fee which can be paid at the door.

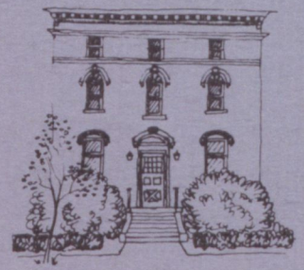
Library Privileges During the summer sessions (roughly May through August) members of the West End Citizens Association and Foggy Bottom Citizens Association can, with the presentation of their cards, enjoy withdrawal privileges at GW's main library at 22nd and H Streets.



Lisner at Noon This new free noontime series (actually starting at 12:15 p.m. each Tuesday) features a wide sampling of performances in the arts, including music, dance, and drama, often presented by artists who are appearing in full-length presentations at Lisner Auditorium, 21st and H Streets, in the evening.

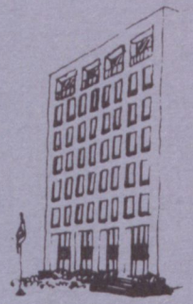
Music During the academic year GW's music department offers free recitals and concerts by faculty and student performers, both in Lisner (21st and H Streets) and in the Dorothy Betts Marvin Theater of the Marvin Center (800 21st Street).

Art The program of art exhibits is year-long and features both traveling shows and exhibitions of work by GW faculty and students. Most exhibits are in the Dimock Gallery in the lower lounge of Lisner (21st and H Streets) with occasional presentations in the third-floor gallery of the Marvin Center (800 21st Street).



Lecture Series Distinguished lecturers including scholars, statesmen, and scientists visit the GW campus each semester to present lectures that are open to the public. Recent visitors have included atomic scientist Edward Teller and poet Marilyn Hacker. The GW Alumni Association's popular "First Wednesday" series is also open to the public.

Educational Programs Here the range of GW offerings is, naturally, diverse, including regular credit undergraduate and graduate programs and enrollment through the University's Division of University Students located at Rice Hall, 2121 Eye Street. There are continuing education programs through its College of General Studies, which includes the Continuing Education for Women Center. There are also continuing education programs in other areas such as engineering, law, and medicine.

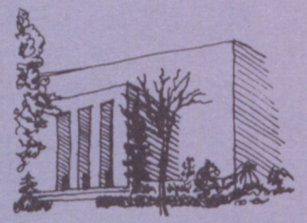


Community Legal Clinic The clinic provides legal assistance to the poor. Its headquarters is the Legal Aid Office in Bacon Hall, (H and 20th Streets) open 9 to 5 on school days.

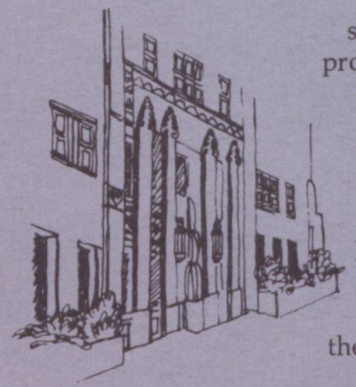
Student Volunteer Groups Advised by GW's Student Activities Office, the Student Volunteer Action Council in room 419 of the Marvin Center, at 21st and H Streets, acts as a clearinghouse for community service projects, such as providing companionship for the elderly and handicapped.

The Cloyd Heck Marvin Center Although primarily for student use, members of the surrounding community may use the center's cafeteria on the first floor and bookstore on the ground level as guests of the university. The center, located at the corner of H and 21st Street, also has facilities such as meeting rooms that can be made available for outside groups. On the third floor of the center is the George Washington University Club with an elegant dining room that can be engaged for outside use.

Theater GW's University Theater, a troupe composed of students and alumni, presents four plays a year. The season usually includes a light musical, a serious drama, a major stage production, and a comedy. Productions are staged in the Dorothy Betts Marvin Theater in Marvin Center (800 21st Street) and in Lisner Auditorium (21st and H Streets). Tickets are available at the box office on the first floor of Marvin Center, or by phone, one week before the production. Senior citizens over 65 qualify for special rates.



Medical Care The facilities of the GW Medical Center are complex and diverse. One of the most apparent is its more than 500-bed hospital offering a highly sophisticated level of care that has made it known nationally. It serves nearly 20,000 persons annually, 50 per cent of whom are from the District of Columbia. The hospital provides care for many of the city's indigent population, and a substantial portion of the institution's free and below-cost care is provided to D.C. residents. The hospital's in-and-out surgical unit, one of the first in the country, offers one-day care for patients undergoing minor surgery.



Comprised of some 15 specialty departments, the Medical Faculty Associates, located in the Burns Memorial Building, at Pennsylvania Avenue and 22nd Street, across from the hospital, is the organization through which the full-time GW medical faculty deliver out-patient medical care to private patients in the community. More than 100,000 patient visits are recorded yearly.

Telephone Directory

Alumni Office	*676-6435*
College of General Studies	*676-7000*
Community Legal Clinic	*676-7463*
Continuing Education for Women	*676-7036*
Continuing Education, Law	*676-7233*
Continuing Education, Medicine	*676-3893*
Dimock Gallery	*676-7091*
Division of University Students	*676-6370*
First Wednesday	*676-6435*
Films	*676-7312*
Library Privileges	*676-6558*
Lisner Auditorium	*676-6800*
Marvin Center Information	*676-7467*
Medical Faculty Associates	*676-6000*
Music Department	*676-6249*
Student Activities Office	*676-6555*
Student Volunteer Action Council	*676-7283*
University Theater	*676-6178*

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